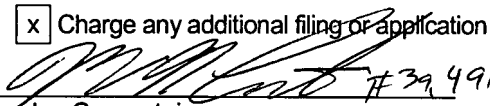




MS AF  
REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP

AF  
SFW

| AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER   |   |   |                                   | Docket No.<br>4492-0136PUS1 |      |
|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|
| Application No.<br>10/553,207-Conf. #1238  |   | Filing Date<br>October 13, 2005         |                                   | Examiner<br>R. N. Labombard |      |
|  |   |   |                                   | Art Unit<br>2852            |      |
| Applicant(s): Shinichi AZUMI et al.  |   |   |                                   |                             |      |
| Invention: LOCK MECHANISM FOR OPENING AND CLOSING MEMBER AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS   |   |   |                                   |                             |      |
| <b>MS AF</b><br><b>Commissioner for Patents</b><br><b>P.O. Box 1450</b><br><b>Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</b><br><br>Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.<br>The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below. |   |   |                                   |                             |      |
| <b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>   |   |   |                                   |                             |      |
|  | Claims<br>Remaining<br>After<br>Amendment | Highest<br>Number<br>Previously<br>Paid | Number<br>Extra Claims<br>Present | Rate                        |      |
| Total Claims   | 7   | - 20 =                                  | 0                                 | x 50.00                     | 0.00 |
| Independent<br>Claims  | 2   | - 3 =                                   | 0                                 | x 200.00                    | 0.00 |
| Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>   |   |   |                                   |                             |      |
| Other fee (please specify):  |   |   |                                   |                             |      |
| <b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:</b>  |   |   |                                   |                             | 0.00 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large Entity <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity   |   |   |                                   |                             |      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for this amendment.  |   |   |                                   |                             |      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____.<br>A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.   |   |   |                                   |                             |      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.  |   |   |                                   |                             |      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.  |   |   |                                   |                             |      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. <u>02-2448</u><br>as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.   |   |   |                                   |                             |      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayment.  |   |   |                                   |                             |      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17.   |   |   |                                   |                             |      |
| for  #39,491  |   |   |                                   | Dated: <u>May 22, 2007</u>  |      |
| Charles Gorenstein<br>Attorney Reg. No.: 29,271<br><br>BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP<br>8110 Gatehouse Road<br>Suite 100 East<br>P.O. Box 747<br>Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747<br>(703) 205-8000  |   |   |                                   |                             |      |



Docket No.: 4492-0136PUS1  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Shinichi AZUMI et al.

Application No.: 10/553,207

Filed: October 13, 2005

For: LOCK MECHANISM FOR OPENING AND  
CLOSING MEMBER AND IMAGE FORMING  
APPARATUS

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116**  
**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

Confirmation No.: 1238

Art Unit: 2852

Examiner: R. N. Labombard

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated March 22, 2007, please amend the above-identified, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.